

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03627 042216 Z

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 AGR-20 EUR-25 SS-15 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AF-10 RSR-01 /105 W  
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R 042050 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

CONFIDENTIAL BOGOTA 3627

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EGEN, CO  
SUBJECT: COFFEE

1. DR. ARTURO GOMEZ JARAMILLO, DIRECTOR OF THE COFFEE FEDERATION, IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH AGATTI INDICATED HE WAS EXTREMELY UNHAPPY ABOUT US OPPOSITION DURING THE RECENT COFFEE COUNCIL MEETINGS TO IMMEDIATE LIQUIDATION OF THE COFFEE DIVERSIFICATION FUND. IN THE PAST, GOMEZ JARAMILLO HAS CRITICIZED THE US ATTITUDE TOWARD THE FUND AND WHAT HE HAS CHARACTERIZED ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION THE MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE US AS TO THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FUND TO PRODUCING COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY COLOMBIA. IN THE RECENT COUNCIL MTGS, ACCORDING TO GOMEZ JARAMILLO, THE US AND CANADA WERE THE ONLY COUNTRIES WHICH OPPOSED THE IMMEDIATE LIQUIDATION OF THE FUND, WHICH HAD THE EFFECT OF DELAYING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE \$71 MILLION FUND UNTIL SEPT 30, 1973, WHEN THE ECONOMIC PROVISIONS OF THE ICA EXPIRE.

2. GOMEZ JARAMILLO ACCUSED THE US OF ACTING CAPRICIOUSLY AND THROWING ITS WEIGHT AROUND IN A MATTER WHICH REALLY BENEFITED ONLY THE PRODUCING COUNTIRES. THE FUND, HE SAID, IS FINANCED FROM PRODUCER CONTRIBUTIONS AND IS USED FOR DIVERSIFICATION PROJECTS IN THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES. AS A RESULT OF THE US ACTION THESE \$71 MILLION WOULD BE UNAVAILABLE FOR DIVERSIFICATION PROJECTS FOR ANOTHER 5 MONTHS, AT A TIME WHEN HIGH COFFEE PRICES MAKE SUCH PROJECTS INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT.

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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 03627 042216 Z

3. HE WENT ON TO CRITICIZE US ACTIONS DURING THE ENTIRE ICA  
RENEGOTIATION PROCESS AND PARTICULARLY WHAT HE CALLED THE  
DICTATORIAL  
US POSITION ON ELIMINATING THE ECONOMIC CLAUSES OF THE ICA RATHER  
THAN ONLY SUSPENDING THEM AS MOST OTHER COUNTRIES FAVORED.  
HE ADDED THAT A NUMBER OF APPROACHES HAD BEEN MADE TO THE STATE  
DEPT LAST FEB TO TRY AND SAVE THE ICA, TO  
NO AVAIL. IT WAS OBVIOUS, HE SAID, THAT US POLICY  
WAS TO KILL THE ICA WITHOUT TAKING THE BLAME.

4. COMMENT: THE EMB WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING THE DEPT'S COMMENTS,  
ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF SECRETARY'S PENDING VISIT.

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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